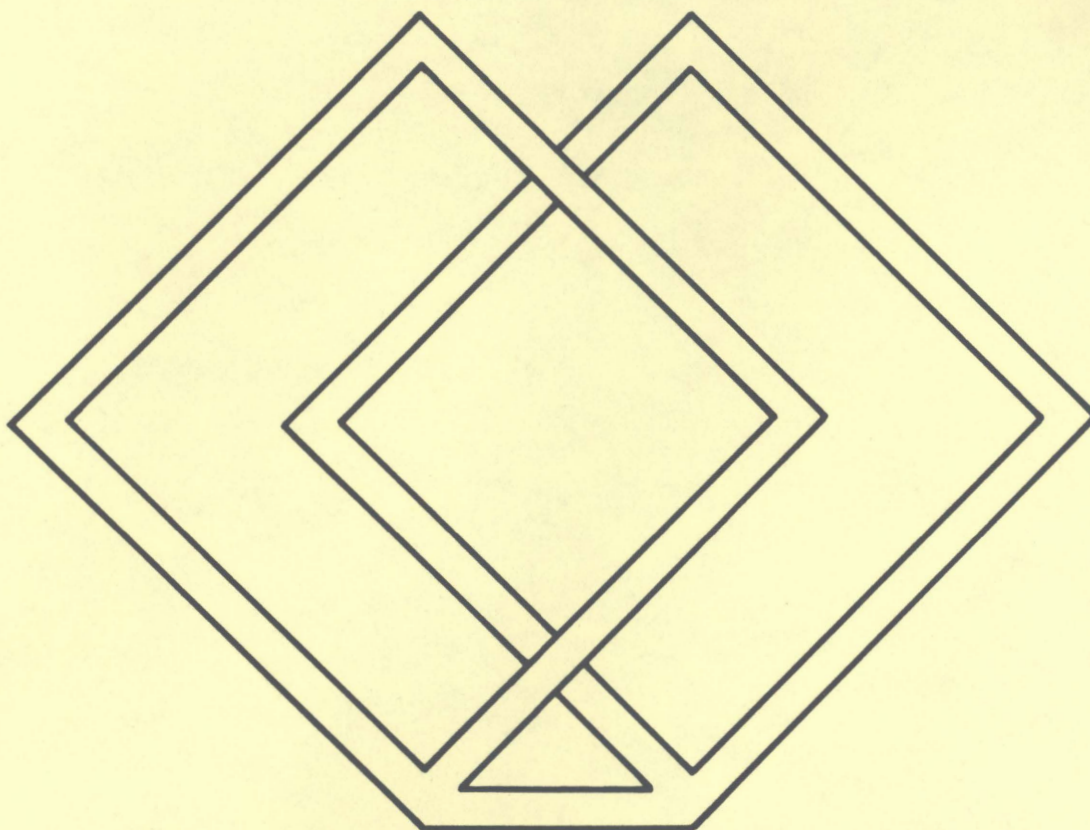


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EDITORIAL

by Frank Gillespie

A BALANCING ACT

One of the roles which I perceive as part of my editorial charter, is that of devil's advocate. In any controversial matter where the support for each side is decided more on emotional grounds than on any determinative logic, I believe that I should come to the aid of the weaker party - if for no other reason than to balance the debate featured in these pages.

For some time now, the Internal Intelligence (IIT) versus External Intelligence (EIT) controversy has been in full swing. Thus far, I have added my weight to the EIT side, because within ACUFOS, it seemed that the IIT advocates had the numbers. However, this numerical superiority has not generally been reflected in either the quantity or quality of supporting arguments. So much so, that I am seriously considering changing sides for a while, until an obvious imbalance has been corrected.

Rather than do this immediately (lest I give the appearance of being fickle or inconsistent), I appeal to the supporters of IIT to put on their thinking caps and come up with some convincing original material. There are better arguments in favour of IIT than any which have yet appeared here or elsewhere; good, soundly based arguments, not dependent upon emotional issues or abstract philosophical principles for their foundation. Surely if I can see them, others can too.

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by Louis Winkler

CULMINATION OF MARTIAN ARRIVALS

The three decades of scarcity of UFO sightings between the 1910's and 1940's was indeed an auspicious time in the history of the world since during that period it would be engaged in two wars and great economic decline. Could this relative absence of Martians and UFOs be due to the sympathy by the aliens for our hard times? If not then it just might be that with these pressing problems the fun of the hoax or the illusion produced by the anxiety of expectation may have been dissipated. In any event the post World War II years brought a new character to the Martian sensations. French archeologist Henri Lhote discovered an exceedingly old drawing of an 18 foot long "helmeted" figure spread out over a cave wall and ceiling in the Tassili Mountains of the Sahara. The figure was noteworthy since the helmet was like that of



Figure 7. A very old drawing of an 18 ft. tall figure found in the Sahara which H. Lhote described as a Martian.

our modern astronauts and certainly nothing like what one would expect primitive societies to depict many millenia ago. Without any justification Lhote proceeded to call his finding a "Great Martian God", and then spend much time defending his choice of wording. We had now entered the era of the "ancient astronaut" where unexplained

technological achievements of bygone societies would be explained with the help of advanced, extra-terrestrials who visited earth long ago. The Swiss author Erich von Daniken would do more to popularize this idea than anyone else with his speculative series of works on the subject.

Part of the new post war UFO activity was that alien spacecraft and their pilots dead or alive, were being whisked away by the Federal Government from the crash site and being examined secretly. It is interesting to note that this mentality started in July 1947 at Roswell, N.M. in the area where Goddard conducted his rocket experiments through World War II. It is also interesting that the authors of the "Roswell Incident", Charles Berlitz and William Moore, make no mention of the connection. In analyzing the vast set of post World War II UFO data, Jacques Vallee found correlations with the sightings and the minor oppositions of Mars which are spaced every 2.1 years, over the years 1949-1957. During the early period of these correlations one of the most noteworthy of all Martian sensations occurred. A live one was reportedly captured which was in the custody of



Figure 8. A sketch of a photograph which the Wiesbadener Tagblatt published on April 1, 1950. (Figure provided by Dennis Pilichis, UFO Information Network, P.O. Box 5012, Rome, Ohio)

the U.S. military forces stationed in Wiesbaden, Germany. Like the 1877 Carcarãna Martian this one was small and had a trunk-

like nose. Apparently earth's nitrogen-oxygen atmosphere was not appropriate for the creature so he had to have his own self-contained atmosphere which undoubtedly was carbon dioxide, the primary constituent of the Martian atmosphere. Indeed, some would suggest this lieu Martian was one of the bodies supposedly recovered in July 1947 at Roswell.

Naturally this was a suspected hoax because the little creature was never made available for further examination. As in so many of the preceding cases a confession of a hoax perpetration was never forthcoming, that is not until July 1981. Only then did members of the UFO Information Network find the confession in an April 1950 issue of the Wiesbadener Tagesblatt. The creature was only a five year old boy dressed in a modified Halloween costume. The hoax was perpetrated by a local German, Klaus Sprunkle, the boy's father, as an April fool joke.

As the age of flying saucers moved into high gear numerous UFO periodicals and organizations were established. The first of these groups, formed in 1952, was the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, based in Arizona. Many of the early members felt that the facts indicated an interplanetary source of UFOs, possibly a colony established on Mars. Another group formed soon after was the International Flying Saucer Bureau headed by Albert K. Bender. Before his organization and journal were two years old, he disbanded his group because he felt he had solved the mystery of UFOs. He indicated an anonymous contact of his revealed the solution to the UFO problem and also informed him, Mars had been destroyed by invaders. Now there's a refreshing change. The bloody red, warlike planet is no longer a problem to us.

If the Wiesbaden hoax was not the culmination of Martian sensations then certainly the 1954 flap was. This year was an opposition just before a favorable one. Vallee indicates that for this year there were "100" sightings or landings of Martians reported by people, greatly exceeding all other Martian flaps. Indeed, the aggressive nature of the Martians and the aliens from other planets like the one which was supposed to have destroyed Mars, may well have caused General Douglas MacArthur to warn us in 1955 that:

"The nations of the world will have to unite, for the next war will be an interplanetary war."

You would think that with nearly a century of encounters with Martians we would have more hard evidence or even con-

clusive information regarding the existence of Martians. Well the evidence finally arrived in the spring of 1959. According to the Soviet astronomer I. S. Shklovsky the two moons of Mars discovered in 1877 were "hollow" and were put into orbit by the martians "millions of years ago". The fact that these moons reflected very little light compared to other moons in the solar system and consequently appeared to be much smaller, was an important factor in Shklovsky's deduction.

While the idea of intelligent life as well as vegetable life had been discussed since the 1877 opposition, the intelligent life aspect received almost all the attention. But in the spring of 1959 along with Shklovsky's announcement, the confirmation of the "certainty" of vegetation existing on Mars came from astronomer Gerard de Vaucouleurs of Paris. This, like the organic life signs found in 1939, was in the form of spectra.

PHENOMENA PROVED IMAGINARY

As the NASA space program developed there was increasingly more talk of the vehicles which would be sent to Mars. And once again as it occurred in the 1910's when we were on the verge of radio contact, there was a relative lull in the reports of Martians. Once again the final confirming proof for the existence of Martians was at hand. The propensity for Martian hoaxes or hallucinations or misinterpretations had all but disappeared. Only one more ancient Martian would be found, this time by Soviet scientists. This Martian depiction was found near the Sino-Soviet border and involved a humanoid with full astronaut suit. We had become used to the space suit and it was only proper Martians should wear them.

The first blow to shatter the remarkable Martian superstructure came in 1965 with the flyby vehicle Mariner IV. Passing within 10,000 miles of the planet it revealed no canals. In 1971 the next shattering blow came with Mariner IX which flew much closer revealing only a few old dried up riverbeds, but no signs of intelligent settlements. English astronomer, Patrick Moore, compared old canal drawings with Mariner photographs and concluded that it was "painfully clear" that the canals had "no basis for reality". The third and lethal blow came in 1976 when Viking I landed. Cameras could not find the slightest indication of any animal or even vegetable life. Tests conducted on the surface of Mars did not even conclusively indicate the existence of micro-organic life. The Martian affair was over!

Since we can be almost certain there is no life on Mars, all matters concerning Martians can now be thought of as imaginary. All suspected hoaxes become actual hoaxes, and the numerous canals deduced from visual or photographic data are to be considered some sort of illusion. The interpretations of radio signals, spectra and other data were erroneous and probably caused by wishful thinking or "extravagant expectation", as it was described by Richard Locke in his 1835 "moon hoax" article appearing in the New York Sun. Perhaps the most noteworthy of the examples of extravagant expectations only occurred at the end of the sequence of Martian phenomena in 1976. Vallee indicates a respected, American scientist-ufologist fully expected the U.S. Federal Government to make a spectacular announcement during the Bicentennial that all along they knew life existed on Mars and would then show it through the eyes of the Viking camera.

In many cases, actual or suspected links have been established among the astronomical, technological, science fiction and general communities which are the stimuli of Martian phenomena. A triggering effect could originate from any of the four communities in the form of a hoax, misinterpretation or illusion. The interactions are analogous to atomic reactions within the interior of a star which generate thermonuclear energy. Ignition occurred in the mid 19th century when the founder of science fiction, Jules Verne, started writing about interplanetary travel, and the most catalytic agent in the lengthy Martian affair was that of Well's story whose effects are continuously traceable for half a century. Critical mass for Martian phenomena was reached in 1947 when UFO flaps became common.

Martian phenomena are closely related to general UFO phenomena since they are a microcosm of the general phenomena and frequently constitute the leading edge in the development of the general phenomena. Very often a Martian phenomenon would occur and then reoccur with striking similarity a half century or so later. Other contributions to the development of general UFO phenomena came from earth's two other close neighbors, the moon and Venus, but they never equalled those of Mars. Development in the case of the moon was arrested because it was established early that there was no atmosphere there, making it impossible for life to exist as we know it. Stories connected with Venus were never fully developed either because we could not see the surface of this planet and receive the continuous stimulation that we did from Mars regarding the canals.

EMERGING RELIGION

While it has been shown the Martian phase in the development of general UFO phenomena was illusory it is not presently possible to do the same for current UFO phenomena. Hypotheses regarding the origin of the current phenomena are varied, involving such things as aliens from beyond the solar system or the space-time continuum, and have not been disproved, or for that matter, proved valid. If any of these hypotheses becomes widely accepted and is then definitively disproved, we will have completed still another phase. Like the Martian phase, in the development of general UFO phenomena. However, if a hypothesis regarding the origin of the UFO phenomena is widely accepted which, at least for some lengthy period of time, cannot be disproved, and which will satisfy those who believe the origin of the UFO phenomena is a force superior to humans, a new phase will be reached. The desire for this new phase to be developed is present and can most readily be seen in the transitional thinking of those who had a vested interest in a Martian hypothesis. With the realization that a Martian hypothesis is no longer tenable UFO phenomena even parts of the Martian phenomena are preserved by simply saying that the Martian terminology used for a century was only generic.

The new UFO phase would have the character of conventional religions such as Christianity or astrology, in that UFO skeptics or debunkers would be as unsuccessful in disproving the nature of the origin of UFO phenomena as are atheists in disproving the existence of God, or as are scientists in disproving the efficacy of astrology. The new religion, however, would be weaker than conventional religions or even astrology. The origin of the UFO phenomena does not involve an absolute reference as God in a theistic religion or the universe in astrology, but is intermediate in character, below an absolute reference, but above humans. The religious leaders of the new religion, analogous to priests, ministers or astrologers, would be the ufologists who believe in a UFO origin superior to humans.

The religion of UFOs is only in its infancy but we may be close to a final phase of development. As paganism, polytheism and astrology preceded monotheism, the lunar, Venusian and Martian phases preceded the current phase which has not yet settled on a single widely accepted origin for the UFOs. Like the conventional religions the new one will continue at the will of the people as long as it serves as part of their way of life.

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IN DEFENCE OF THE 'UNDERCOVER UFO THEORY'

by Frank Gillespie

John Prytz (1) has objected to my 'Undercover UFO Theory' (2) on three grounds:

1. That extraterrestrials visiting Earth would have no reason to want to keep undercover.
2. That if they did have reasons to avoid detection by humans, they would be able to achieve effective 'invisibility' as far as we are concerned.
3. That if their aim is to avoid detection, they have failed miserably.

The last of these objections is simply a semantic misunderstanding (I suspect deliberate) which can be dealt with in short order. Then, I intend to show that there are highly probable circumstances in which the first two objections are invalid.

In formulating the 'Undercover UFO Theory', I believe I made it quite clear that the current widespread belief in the equation "UFOs = extraterrestrials" does not constitute "awareness" of the existence of visiting extraterrestrials. After all, one cannot be aware of something as a particular entity, unless one first knows such an entity exists. In order to know, one must possess either proof or faith. With respect to the reality of extraterrestrial visitors, I doubt very much that John Prytz himself has either! Anyway, to clear up any confusion which may exist, I now stipulate that humans will not be "aware" of extraterrestrial visitors until:

1. Extraterrestrial and flying saucer jokes are no longer funny.

2. Ufologists everywhere accept "extraterrestrial spaceship" as a legitimate UFO identification.

3. The Pope concedes that homo sapiens is not a unique creation of God.

4. The Australian Government establishes a Department of Extraterrestrial Affairs.

5. The American National Science Foundation allocates a significant proportion of its funds to projects concerned with visiting extraterrestrials.

There are many other necessary conditions, but I figure that they are all likely to precede most of those above, so I have no need to mention them. Until all these things happen, the observable impact of extraterrestrials on affairs terrestrial will be insignificant.

It has often been postulated, e.g. in (3), that the development of high technology is improbable in an environment devoid of the influences of aggressiveness/competitiveness. It therefore follows that any emerging technological society will probably reach the point at which self-destruction becomes possible while these destructive motivations are still very much in evidence. Whether or not the society survives this crisis period will depend entirely on whether they master their aggressiveness/competitiveness before they touch off their particular holocaust. Their are two obvious corollaries to this postulate:

1. Technological progress in any post-crisis society will be almost non-existent. This means

that the common assumption of great technological superiority in any really old society, may be only a myth. Extraterrestrials are not likely to be able to achieve 'invisibility', or to shrug off any terrestrial aggressive act because of their superior defences.

2. The members of any post-crisis society are bound to be dedicated pacifists, and therefore mentally incapable of dealing with the depredations of an aggressive terrestrial society.

This, obviously, is one scenario in which extraterrestrial visitors would be desperate to remain undercover, but incapable of achieving that aim by straightforward and direct methods.

There are other such scenarios. As I pointed out in (4), John Prytz himself has proposed a situation (5) where aliens would not want us to be aware of them. One then need only suggest that alien carelessness, criminal activity, or even another race of aliens originally let the "pussy out of the sack", and John's moon-dwelling folk would be stuck with the job of trying to make us believe the "pussy" was only a spook or a joke - nothing to get worried about. In fact, the idea that there are two or more alien races around, makes it possible to concede that John may be right - they don't care whether we see them or not, and they are technologically very su-

perior - yet still cling to the propositions that they want to stay hidden, and that they are more or less our technological equals. It just involves one 'they' for John, and a different 'they' for myself!

Many other plausible scenarios which could lead to an "Undercover UFO Theory" situation have been dealt with by various science fiction writers. Without going into any details, I present a selection of stories (6 to 14) in which the rationale for undercover operations is explained.

I believe that I have successfully dealt with all of John's objections to the "Undercover UFO Theory". However, there remains his final paragraph to attend to. Contrary to John's claim that "We didn't think of that", I can truthfully say that I have often thought of a possible association between leprechauns and pixies, and UFOs. I do think it is more logical to propose that early extraterrestrial encounters resulted in leprechaun and pixie reports, than to blame these mischievous imps for all our present ufological problems. In just the same way, typical UFO type events seem to have generated Martian reports in fairly recent times according to Winkler (15); while in the early days of Australia it was 'bunyip' reports. It could well be that there is a continuum of UFO reports over the centuries, but with frequent name changes according to fashion, time and place. I wonder if John has thought of that!

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CLEAR INTENT, THE GOVERNMENT COVERUP OF THE UFO EXPERIENCE

Authors: Lawrence Fawcett & Barry J. Greenwood

reviewed by Paul Sowiak-Rudej

Publisher: Prentice-Hall, Inc., Eaglewood Cliffs, N.J., U.S.A. 1984.

"Clear Intent" deals with an essentially controversial subject: the government cover-up of the UFO experience. Extensive research and interpretation of official documents released under the US Freedom of Information Act has led the authors, Lawrence Fawcett and Barry J. Greenwood, to assert that there is real evidence of such a cover-up. Indeed, the documents do contain much that is new and surprising, even disturbing. Unfortunately, the book is somewhat hard to read and those with no prior knowledge of ufology may find it boring.

The topics covered include a major analysis of mystery helicopter activity; pilot deaths; crashed craft; animal mutilation; FBI tactics; and a historical record of CIA involvement. There is an inadequate Index, and a comprehensive Glossary of Acronyms. Of interest especially to investigators is the sample of the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) Sighting Report Form in Appendix B. Appendix A is one of the highlights of the book, containing nine samples of the official documents on which the study is based. These graphically illustrate the reticence of the government and the extent of the work involved in researching the material. For instance, one page released under the Act has been entirely censored so that it contains only the paragraph headings 'c.' and 'd.' and the words 'TOP SECRET'. Such items do lend credence to the statement on page 209 that "According to the government the national security of the United States would be threatened by an open discussion of government UFO information" (emphasis in the original).

The sequential discussion of CIA and FBI involvement from 1947 to 1977 follows the historical changes in policy, and provides a fascinating insight into the operation at home and abroad of the US Intelligence Agencies. Many interesting foreign sightings are described, details of which were only obtained after a much protracted legal battle resulting in the release of nearly 900 pages of UFO related documents (p. 113). In view of the problems in acquiring this information, the authors may be justified in their repeated allegations and insinuations that yet more data is still being withheld, for instance: "More photographs and still the CIA claims that no visuals are available in the files. One would think that if intelligence is being collected, a picture would be worth a thousand words. The CIA undoubtedly had the resources to obtain photographic information. Where is it all?" (p. 139).

One of the most disturbing sections of the book recounts several incidents in which UFOs apparently caused disabling problems in the guidance and control systems of Minuteman missiles. One such event occurred at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana on March 20, 1967: "a flight of ten missiles developed problems. A UFO was in the area and was confirmed on radar. Jet fighters were sent after the UFO, but the results of the pursuit are not known. Later enquiries to obtain additional information met with silence" (p. 29).

Chapter Seven, 'Mystery Helicopters', devotes twelve pages to another not-so-well-known aspect of the UFO phenomenon which also strongly implies that there is more government involvement than is usually admitted to. It examines the connection between helicopters, mutilations and UFOs, and proposes the theory that in many cases these unmarked and unidentified craft belong to a para-government rapid intervention force.

Throughout the book, there is substantial evidence of high strangeness and high credibility UFO activity, although in some cases such as the Pascagoula abduction (p. 70) the coverage is superficial and the authors may be relying on assumed prior knowledge of ufology. There has evidently been a great deal of work by Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS) in obtaining material, and by the authors in compiling the manuscript. The result is a blend of dry, factual material with speculation on its full implications which leaves the reader pondering for some time on the magnitude of the problem. I doubt if anyone seriously interested in UFOs would want to miss this book, as it does, even if not proving a cover-up, demonstrate that the subject must be taken very seriously indeed.

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ACUFOS BIBLIOGRAPHY SERVICE: THE ORIGIN OF LIFE: PART ONE

(by) John Prytz

Compiler's Note: Highly relevant to the question of the prevalence of extraterrestrial life, and to the UFO ETH, is the question of life's origin - miracle or statistic? It's probably the weakest link in the causality chain between the UFO and the ETH, and the most uncertain of the required events that would lead to a universe teeming with life. While I've touched on this in references to "cosmic chemistry", more to the point has been references to "panspermia", the theory that biological spores and/or organic chemicals have seeded the Earth from elsewhere, either accidentally and by chance via meteor/comet-Earth encounters or deliberately through extraterrestrial "Johnny Appleseeds". However, panspermia is the unorthodox and scientifically minority viewpoint. These references give the currently acceptable view that while there is no question that Earth was partly formed from, and continues to receive extraterrestrial organics, the actual chemical evolution of those compounds, resulting in the origin of terrestrial life, was a planetary self-contained event. Needless to say, total references to the (traditional) origin of, and early development of, life forms on Earth is IMMENSE! In fact, to the tune of tens of thousands of them. Like ufology, entire journals and annual conferences are devoted to this subject. Thus, these references form only the tip, but I believe the more accessible and relevant part, of the "origin of life" iceberg. To cater for all tastes, the references range from the simple to the complex. And whether you're into the ETH or not, the question of life's origin (and ultimately, that means YOU!) is an important, fascinating, and controversial one in its own right, right on the frontiers of modern science. It's the responsibility of all educated people to have some understanding of this subject.

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